WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently Amended) A probe cover as recited in claim 21, wherein an outer circumference of the distal end of the body has an arcuate surface.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) A probe cover as recited in claim 21, wherein the body defines at least one longitudinal rib projecting from an inner surface thereof and being proximally spaced from the distal end of the body.

8. (Currently Amended) A probe cover as recited in claim 21, wherein the body defines a plurality of longitudinal ribs projecting from an inner circumferential surface thereof, the longitudinal ribs being proximally spaced from the distal end of the body.

9. (Original) A probe cover as recited in claim 8, wherein the longitudinal ribs are configured to facilitate nesting of a second probe cover.

10. (Currently Amended) A probe cover as recited in claim 21, wherein the body defines at least one protuberance projecting from an inner surface thereof, the least one protuberance being proximally spaced from the distal end of the body.

11. (Currently Amended) A probe cover as recited in claim 21, wherein the body defines a plurality of protuberances projecting from an inner circumferential surface thereof, the plurality of protuberances being proximally spaced from the distal end of the body.

12. (Original) A probe cover as recited in claim 11, wherein the protuberances are configured to facilitate nesting of a second probe cover.

13. (Currently Amended) A probe cover as recited in claim 21, wherein the body defines at least one protuberance projecting from an outer surface thereof, the at least one protuberance being proximally spaced from the distal end of the body.

14. (Currently Amended) A probe cover as recited in claim 21, wherein the body defines a plurality of protuberances projecting from an outer circumferential surface thereof, the plurality of protuberances being proximally spaced from the distal end of the body.

15. (Original) A probe cover as recited in claim 14, wherein the protuberances are configured to facilitate nesting of a second probe cover.

16. (Original) A probe cover as recited in claim 15, wherein the body defines a plurality of protuberances projecting from an inner surface thereof and

being proximally spaced from the distal end of the body, the protuberances being configured to facilitate nesting with a third probe cover.

17. (Currently Amended) A probe cover as recited in claim 21, wherein the body extends in a tapered configuration from the proximal end to the distal end.

18. (Currently Amended) A probe cover comprising:

a tubular body portion extending in a tapered configuration from a proximal end to a distal end, the proximal end defining an opening configured for receipt of a distal end of a tympanic thermometer, and

the distal end being substantially enclosed by a film and including a plurality of non-continuous end ribs being circumferentially spaced apart and disposed about an inner circumferential surface thereof,

the end ribs having a longitudinal portion extending proximally along the tubular body portion and a transverse portion being transverse relative to the longitudinal axis of the tubular body and projecting along a transverse surface of the film, the longitudinal portion and the transverse portion being configured to receivably engage the distal end of the tympanic thermometer for support therein such that the distal end of the tympanic thermometer is spaced apart from the film at a predetermined space, wherein the predetermined space is defined by a thickness of the transverse portion.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Canceled).

21. (New) A probe cover comprising:

a tubular body portion extending in a tapered configuration from a proximal end to a distal end, the proximal end defining an opening configured for receipt of a distal end of a tympanic thermometer, and

the distal end being substantially enclosed by a film and including a plurality of non-continuous end ribs being circumferentially spaced apart and disposed about an inner circumferential surface thereof,

the end ribs having a longitudinal portion extending proximally along the tubular body portion and a transverse portion being transverse relative to the longitudinal axis of the tubular body and projecting along a transverse surface of the film, the longitudinal portion and the transverse portion being configured to receivably engage the distal end of the tympanic thermometer for support therein such that the distal end of the tympanic thermometer is spaced apart from the film at a predetermined space, wherein the predetermined space is defined by the distance from a proximal face of the transverse portion to the film.

22. (New) A probe cover comprising:

a tubular body portion extending in a tapered configuration from a proximal end to a distal end, the proximal end defining an opening configured for receipt of a distal end of a tympanic thermometer, and

the distal end being substantially enclosed by a film and including a plurality of non-continuous end ribs being circumferentially spaced apart and disposed about an inner circumferential surface thereof,

the end ribs having a longitudinal portion extending proximally along the tubular body portion and a transverse portion being transverse relative to the longitudinal axis of the tubular body and projecting along a transverse surface of the film, the longitudinal portion and the transverse portion being configured to receivably engage the distal end of the tympanic thermometer for support therein such that the distal end of the tympanic thermometer is spaced apart from the film at a predetermined space, wherein the predetermined space is determined by the location of the transverse portion relative to the longitudinal axis of the tubular body.